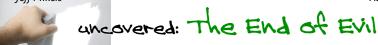
Jeff Mikels August 16, 2009



Week 5

REVIEW • PRAY • I HATE EVIL • SODINI & CHURCH • COLUMBINE & CHURCH
YOU'RE WITH ME • LOVED ONE MISTREATED • MY SISTER • SIS-IN-LAW

How long, O LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save? Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds. Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted.

Habakkuk 1:2-4

## THE BIG IDEA OF REVELATION:

The Lord God Almighty is in charge (regardless of how it seems) and he's going to win, so be patient, faithful, and alert.

God has promised to

finally and fully eradicate evil.

Prologue: The Harvest (Rev. 14:14-20)

- 1. First, **Jesus** harvests his fruit.
- 2. Second, the angels harvest the "grapes of wrath."

  for weeks we have seen the dual reality of persecution and protection...

Overview: The Bowls of Wrath (Rev 15-16)

- The bowls are the **final** expression of God's wrath.
- ▶ The bowls demonstrate four ultimate results of evil:
  - Physical Suffering
  - Hardening of hearts
  - **Unified** opposition
  - God's Victory

THREE TIMES THEY "CURSE GOD" BUT THE FIRST TWO THEY "REFUSE TO REPENT"

ZOOM: The Fall of Babylon (Rev 17-18)

- The woman represents the "Great City" or Babylon (17:5-6).
- The beast represents the global **e m p i r e** (9-11).
- Their reign is **Short** and defeat guaranteed (12-14, 18:10, 17, 19).
- They will **destroy** the great city in the process (15-18).

PARTIALLY FULFILLED IN THE FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE • HOWEVER JOHN'S VISION IS ABOUT ONE NATION CONSUMING THE RESOURCES OF THE WHOLE WORLD TO PROVIDE LUXURY FOR ITSELF

The closest thing to this Babylon that the world has ever known, economically speaking, is **the USA**.

CONSUMPTION STATISTICS... ILL: DANNY CARROLL & GUATEMALAN BANANAS • I AM NOT SPEAKING AGAINST THIS COUNTRY, BUT AGAINST THE VALUES YOU AND I HAVE ALL ADOPTED, VALUES GOD HAS ALWAYS OPPOSED • THE USA IS NOT BABYLON... YET

ZOOM: Armageddon

(Rev 19)

The kings gather for war, **b u t** 

When the time comes, God's

victory will be immediate.

so what?

TWO WEEKS AGO, GEORGE SODINI & CHURCH FRIEND ANDY • WHOM SHOULD I BE MAD AT?

NO TARGET FOR MY ANGER BECAUSE A LITTLE BIT OF EVIL INSIDE EVERY ONE OF US
BUT ONE OF THESE DAYS, GOD WILL ERADICATE ALL EVIL • BAD NEWS / GOOD NEWS

This includes you who were once so far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions, yet now he has brought you back as his friends. He has done this through his death on the cross in his own human body. As a result, he has brought you into the very presence of God, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault. But you must continue to believe this truth and stand in it firmly...

Colossians 1:21-23 NLT

BELIEVE THIS TRUTH AND STAND IN IT FIRMLY AND REJOICE
In Christ, I am blameless. • In Christ, I will live blamelessly this week.